(from Government & Non-Government including localised services) that may be needed by the local community.

Bailout-package of BSNL and MTNL

3126. SHRIMATI KAMLA MANHAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have given a "bailout package" to BSNL and MTNL during the last three years;

(b) if so, how much amount as "bailout package" has been provided to these two PSUs in the last three years; and

(c) the basis of providing these bailout package and the details of utilization of such amount?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) As BSNL and MTNL are profit making companies, the need for 'bailout package' for these companies has not arisen.

(b) and (c) Do not arisen in view of (a) above.

Criteria for Public PCO in Chhattisgarh

†3127. SHRIMATI KAMLA MANHAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that great difficulties are being faced in getting PCO allotted at Panchayat level in rural areas of Chhattisgarh;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is a fact that irregularities are also being committed regarding the quality of sets given at the time of providing new connection; and

(d) if so, action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) No difficulties are being faced in the allotment of Village public Telephones (VPTs) at Panchayat level in rural areas of Chhattisgarh.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) No such complaints observed.

(d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

Computerization of post offices

3128. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Planning Commission had provided more than 800 crores of rupees for the computerization of post offices and other offices during the Tenth Five year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of post offices computerized till date and names of States where they are located;

(d) whether Government have prepared any scheme for computerization of all post offices to provide better services to the customers; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government has approved a plan for induction of computers in all Head Post Offices, large Sub Post Offices, all Postal Accounts Offices and major Postal Administrative Offices during the Tenth Five Year Plan with a financial outlay of Rs. 836.27 crores.

(c) Till date 2372 post offices have been provided with computers. The State-wise details are indicated in the enclosed Statement (*See* below).

(d) The approved plan scheme in the Tenth Five Year Plan is for computerization of all Head Post Offices and large Sub Post Offices.

(e) During the Tenth Five Plan it is proposed to computerize all Head Post Offices and large Sub Post Offices numbering about 7700 depending upon the availability of funds and approval of the competent authority. The remaining post offices may be taken up for computerization in a phased manner in the future five-year plans depending upon the traffic of the post offices, availability of funds and required approvals.